

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN-  
TALENT/KEYHOLE CONTROL  
SYSTEMS JOINTLY

TOP SECRET//RUEF  
IDEALIST//TACKLE

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

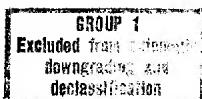
BYE 2724/66  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA Representative, COMOR  
SUBJECT : SAM Defenses in Communist China

1. It is requested that the Photo Working Group consider a proposal to target more extensively certain photo satellites against the known Chinese Communist SAM installations on a higher priority basis. Specifically, the problem is one of determining through satellite photography the location of the existing Chinese SAM equipment, whether in a known site or a new one yet to be discovered. Up-to-date information of this type is urgently required for the successful utilization of the U-2 reconnaissance aircraft over Chinese territory, not only for operational considerations in route planning but also for political considerations which involve the Chinese Nationalist attitude toward the program.

2. While coverage of all known operational SAM sites in China is desirable, the areas in which the U-2 may be called upon to perform missions in the near future are of the greatest importance. There have been several occasions where U-2's have been fired on by SAMs which had not been previously located. Had the locations of the SAM sites in question been known, the U-2 could have avoided the hazard.

3. It is a well known fact that the Chinese Communists have only a limited amount of SAM equipment, probably no more than enough to equip ten sites. It is also known that the Chinese deploy this equipment from place to place in what appears to be an effort to maximize its effectiveness. In this connection they have managed to keep us guessing as to where the next SAM incident will occur.



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4. We believe the U-2 program warrants the best available intelligence concerning the primary hazard which affects its success. The better intelligence on Chinese Communist SAM defenses, which is expected to result from more extensive use of satellite photography, would permit the U-2 program to obtain more high resolution photography of the areas in China currently of highest interest. For this reason OSA believes the use of photo satellites to acquire information on Chinese SAM defenses is justified and therefore strongly recommends more extensive use of satellite photographic systems to provide current information on the Chinese Communist SAM defenses, both known and suspect sites, particularly in the areas where forthcoming U-2 missions may be under consideration.

[Redacted]

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Colonel, USAF  
Director of Special Activities

INTEL DIV/O/OSA/ [Redacted] :nlm (13 Sept 66)

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